

Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

24th February 2023

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities – Cllr David Welsh

Director approving submission of the report:

Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services

Ward(s) affected:

All Wards

Title:

Local Listing Nominations – Process Review

Is this a key decision?

No - although the proposals affect more than two electoral wards, the impact is not expected to be significant.

Executive summary:

The City Council has an established nomination process for the nomination of additions to the Local List of Heritage Assets, available to the public via the authority's website at https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/23529/local_list_criteria

The report reviews this established process, seeking to ensure that the route to, and assessment of, nominations may be best managed in line with available Council resource and planning policy.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member is requested to:

- 1) Endorse the revision to the Local Listing process.
- 2) Delegate authority to Head of Planning Policy and Environment, to finalise the details and publication of the updated Local Listing nomination process.

List of Appendices included:

N/A

Background papers:

City of Coventry Local List of Heritage Assets – criteria

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/23529/local_list_criteria

Other useful documents

N/A

Has it or will it be considered by scrutiny?

No - However, the role of Locally Listed Heritage assets in the planning system was presented to Scrutiny Panel 6th October 2022

Has it or will it be considered by any other council committee, advisory panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Local Listing Nominations – Process Review

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 Locally listed buildings are buildings and sites within the local planning authority's area which make a positive contribution to its local character and sense of place because of their heritage value.
- 1.2 Whilst these buildings or sites may not be nationally designated, the Local List identification of these sites and their significance then merits consideration in future planning decisions.
- 1.3 Coventry City Council have maintained a Local List of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest since (at least) June 1974. The list has evolved over time as nominations have been considered and if endorsed, placed onto the register.
- 1.4 The creation and maintenance of a Local List is a way to identify and celebrate historic buildings and sites which enrich the area, this identification and publication of designations also contributes to the Coventry Plan in the promotion of Coventry as a visitor destination and centre for the arts and culture.
- 1.5 The nomination process establishes key criteria for the consideration of inclusion to the Local List, in order that a nomination be valid and proceed to further stages of evaluation, applicants must demonstrate the nominations alignment with the articulated criteria.
- 1.6 Further to these criteria being met, the process states that nominations will be considered by officers alongside views being sought from the public. Further to this process a recommendation is made to Cabinet Member for consideration and decision making upon the nomination.
- 1.7 The process is seen to present robust assessment criteria for nominations, seeking that distinct local heritage value be articulated through several points of consideration. However, the process also currently presents challenges in respect of the allocation of specialist resource, where the requirement to proceed to public consultation of all applications which meet the stated criteria, thereby introducing processes which may impact upon wider organisational priorities.
- 1.8 The following recommendations are therefore made, in order that the process remains deliverable amongst wider organisational priorities, to maintain the positive role of Local Listing designations in the city.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 In order to resolve resource impacts, the City Council could choose to close the route to nomination of Locally Listed heritage assets, however this is not recommended in the interests of promoting and respecting the local heritage of the city and the alignment of this with the Coventry Plan.
- 2.2 The recommendation is to maintain the currently available route to nomination of new Locally Listed Heritage Assets, however subject to a minor revision in policy. This being that the Urban Design and Heritage manager is required to review and approve the appropriateness of undertaking the consultation processes, prior to views being sought and decision-making phases being enacted. As a result of the revision, nominations may be considered in line with

available resource requirements, and alongside planning policy and strategic considerations, ahead of public consultation.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1. N/A

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 The decision will be implemented immediately, with an updated process to be published at the earliest opportunity.

5. Comments from the Interim Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) and the Chief Legal Officer

5.1. Financial Implications

The recommendation will have no financial impact, however, allow the authority to better manage resourcing requirements in respect of maintaining a live nomination process.

5.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

6. Other implications

6.1. **How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?**

Assessment of Local List nominations contributes toward raising the profile of Coventry through promoting Coventry as a visitor destination and centre for the arts and culture, sports and leisure, music and events.

6.2. **How is risk being managed?**

There is no risk identified associated with the recommendation

6.3. **What is the impact on the organisation?**

The recommendation will allow for improved future resource management of the Local Listing process.

6.4. **Equalities / EIA?**

A full Equality and Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken as part of developing the Local Plan. As part of that analysis, the Council had due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act (2010).

6.5. **Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?**

There is no direct impact from the recommendations of the report.

6.6. **Implications for partner organisations?**

None

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Cllr David Welsh	Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities	-	14.02.2023	14.02.2023

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